

**METHOD FOR DETERMINING THE INFORMATION CAPACITY OF A PAPER  
CHANNEL AND FOR DESIGNING OR SELECTING A SET OF BITMAPS  
REPRESENTATIVE OF SYMBOLS TO BE PRINTED ON SAID CHANNEL**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5 A method for determining the information loss or conditional entropy in a paper  
channel where an imager produces an output from symbols printed on a substrate and  
a paper channel designed in accordance with such method. A parametric, statistical  
model of the channel is chosen. Test patterns are then transmitted through the channel  
to determine optimal parameter values for the model. These values are the used in the  
10 model to estimate the information loss in the channel. This information loss is used as  
a figure of merit in making design choices for the paper channel.